

**Cemetery Lane West
Meadow Ridge Road
Elkridge, Maryland
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)**

Site Description

The Voluntary Cleanup Program's Cemetery Lane West site consists of eight undeveloped parcels located west of Interstate 95 (I-95) and south of Meadowridge Road totaling 30.9-acres. Surrounding properties include the Howard County Mayfield Repair facility (MD-465), St. Stephens Church, and residential properties to the northwest and west; a convenience store and residential properties to the north and northeast; and primarily commercial/ industrial properties to the east, on the opposite side of I-95. Currently, the property is wooded with the exception of a few unpaved roads and a small clearing related to the 1990 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) removal action.

Site History

Prior to the 1960s, Cemetery Lane was a small road used for funeral processions connecting St. Stephens Church to a cemetery located east of I-95. The properties in this area were used for residential purposes, farming, and limited sand/gravel quarrying. Cemetery Lane was truncated by construction of I-95 in the 1960s.

In 1982, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (MDHMH) received an anonymous report concerning unregulated dumping in the area. A subsequent investigation revealed partially buried drums, domestic waste, and discarded household appliances and furniture on properties located east and west of I-95. The approximately 55-acre area located west of I-95 was designated the Cemetery Lane West (MD-305) site and placed on the State Master List. This site consisted of twelve parcels of land owned by several owners.

MDHMH and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a series of site investigations between 1982 and 1989. Initial inspection found 30 to 50 decaying metal 55-gallon drums, numerous 5-gallon buckets, reagent bottles, and other debris. Soil sampling in the vicinity of the dump areas revealed concentrations of inorganics, including chromium, barium, and lead; solvents, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment of the property in 1989. U.S. EPA completed a removal action in the dump area in April and May 1990. A total of 101 overpacked drums and approximately 600 tons of contaminated soil were removed from the dump area, designated Area A. An additional 13 overpacked drums were removed from a smaller area (designated Area B). Area B, though originally part of the Cemetery Lane West (MD-305) site, has since been determined to be part of the adjacent Howard County Mayfield Repair Facility (MD-465).

The dump area was graded and seeded after removal of the drums and debris and sediment erosion controls were constructed to prevent further erosion. Limited confirmatory sampling in the vicinity of the dump revealed lower levels of inorganics and solvents in the soil.

MDE sampled groundwater, sediment, and surface water on the property during a series of sampling episodes between September 1990 and December 1997. Solvents were detected in groundwater samples collected downgradient of the dump area, including trichloroethene (TCE) at 130 parts per billion (ppb). Metals and solvents were also detected in soil samples and low levels of solvents were detected in an on-site spring.

Voluntary Cleanup Program Status

In February 2001, Kenfield LLC submitted an application to the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) seeking a No Further Requirements Determination for future residential use with a groundwater use restriction. The application included eight parcels comprising 30.9-acres of the original 55-acre Cemetery Lane West (MD-305) site, including the former Area A U.S. EPA drum removal site. The Department reviewed the application package and the historical data and notified the applicant that additional site investigation must be completed before the Department could complete its review of the application.

The additional investigations included excavation of thirteen test pits to check for dumping in other areas of the property and the installation of five additional monitoring wells. A total of 42 soil samples across the property were collected and field screened for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and priority pollutant metals (PPMs). Based on the field screening, thirteen soil samples were submitted to a fixed laboratory and tested for VOCs, semivolatile organic compounds including PAHs (SVOCs) and PPMs. Four soil samples were analyzed for herbicides, pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Seven groundwater samples were analyzed for VOCs and four groundwater samples were analyzed for SVOCs and PPMs. Two surface water samples were analyzed for VOCs, PPMs, pesticides, and herbicides. Additionally, a groundwater use investigation of properties within one-half mile of the site concluded that there is no current or potential future potable groundwater use downgradient of the property.

The Department reviewed the site analytical data and concluded that a No Further Requirements Determination for future limited residential purposes, as requested by the applicant, was not warranted due to elevated concentrations of metals in the soil, including arsenic and mercury, in limited areas of the property. Kenfield LLC asked the Department to reevaluate the property for future commercial use. Based on the Department's review, a No Further Requirements Determination was issued in November 2001 on condition that future use of the property is restricted to commercial/industrial purposes and groundwater beneath the property is not used for any purpose.

Site Contact

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